

S O M E

Whig-Principles

Demonstrated to be

Good Sense and Sound Divinity,

From their Natural

CONSEQUENCES.

As thou hast prov'd it by their Practice,

No Argument like Matter of Fact is;

And we are best of all led to

Mens Principles by what they do.

Hudibr.

Insuper datum Sceleri canimus.

Lucan.



L O N D O N :

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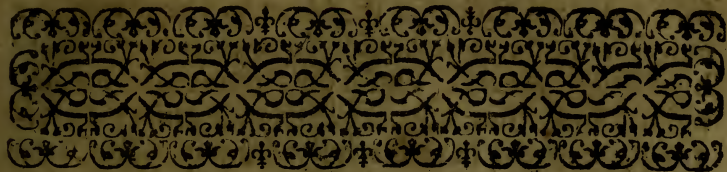
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S O M E

WHIG-PRINCIPLES Demonstrated, &c.



Almighty GOD did, in the Beginning, create our Old Grandfather *Adam* in his own *Image*, and Made and *Constituted* him the *Deputy* of GOD over the *Children* of Men, which were by him to be begotten: Therefore, so soon as *Adam* had *Children*, who were come to the Use of *Reason*, these his Children had a *Natural Right*, or a *Power*, founded in the *Pre-Adamitical Contract*; which is the same Thing as to *depose* their Father *Adam*, both as their *Parent*, and as their *Sovereign*; if he did in the least *disoblige* them, or, indeed, without any *Disobligation* at all, if it did appear *convenient* to them to *depose* Him. And this they had, most certainly, a well-founded *Right* and *Power* to do; the *Institution* of GOD notwithstanding. Why? Because Two is always better than One. And *Adam* was created *Only* to *Beget* them, and to become, from their *Sovereign* and *Parent*, their *Sub-*
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jest, whenever they should think fit to make him so. I did not say, that if *Adam* had begotten but one *Son*, that this *Son* could so *regularly Dethrone* his Father *Adam*: Tho' I am somewhat inclinable to think, that, upon some *extraordinary Emergency*, he might have lawfully done it. But, once there were *Two Sons*, the Case can bear no Dispute; for then they were the *Majority*: They two were the *People*, and *Adam* was but *One*; (for I have nothing to say to Old Mother *Eve*; She was a *Woman*, that is enough!) *Adam* was but a *Parent*, and a *Prince*, and was *God's Choice* for them, but was not the *free Choice* of his *Sons* the *People*; and, therefore, could not honestly claim their *Duty* and *Obedience*, longer than they thought fit *voluntarily* to submit to him, else they were his *Natural Vassals*, or *Slaves*. But every Body knows, or should know, that all Mankind are born *free*: Why? Because that no Man is born with a *Saddle on his Back*. I think this *Head* sufficiently clear'd; and yet it has a *Tail*. For,

By the same Rule, all the *Patriarchs*, both the *Ante* and the *Post-Diluvians*, were very silly Fellows, Why? Because They had a Parcel of *Tyranical Notions*, *Inconsistent* with the *Liberties* of the *People*; for by this Time, you must know, the *People* were grown more numerous, by a great deal, than they were when *Adam* was first created. This Discovery I happened lately, and very luckily, to make, by stumbling upon an *old, musty, Worm-eaten Book*, written in a strange Language, which made me oblig'd to an Interpreter for my Knowledge

Knowledge in it. And I own, I lik'd the *Book* the better, because I found it amongst the *Archives* of a *Right Reverend Prelate*, who had never worn *Lawn Sleeves* if he had read it, no, not for *Two Thousand a Year*. Now, I say, these *Old Patriarchs* were very *Tyrants* in their *Nature*; for they fancied, that every one of them, forsooth, had a *Right to Govern* his own *Family*: But they were egregiously mistaken; because, undoubtedly, their *Families*, their *Children*, nay, even their *Servants*, both *Collectively* and *Representatively*, had a *Right to Depose* them, and to exercise the *Faculties* and *Powers* of these *Lords Patriarchs*, with which they were *invested* by the *Original Instrument of Government*, the *Pre-Adamitical Contract*: So that the *People* in those Days, shew'd very great *Moderation*, when they allow'd themselves to be *Governed* and *Ruled* by these same *Patriarchs*; when, indeed, the *Patriarchs* did owe the *Peaceable Possession* and *Exercise* of that *Power*, which they *Vainly* and *Tyrannically* imagined they were *invested* with, over their *Children* and *Servants*, entirely to the *Good Nature* and *Good Will* of their *Families*, who had a *well-founded Original, Natural, and Pre-Adamitical Right* to kick them out of *Doors*, whenever they thought fit so to do. Why? Because they were the *People*, and naturally *Free*. And, can any Body be so stupid as to imagine, that a silly *Patriarch*, a *single Person*, was to be preferr'd to all his *Children, Servants* and *Family*? Or, that these old *Patriarchs* were born for any other End, but to *beget Children*, and to *hire Servants*, to *De-*
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pose, or Govern themselves, whenever they, the Majority, should think fit? Besides, it was *Impudent* in those old Fellows, and very *Tyrannical*, to pretend a *Right* from G O D over their *Families*. This shew'd their *Insolence*, and this alone was *Reason* enough for their *Children* and *Servants* to have made them glad to *ABDICATE*, had they not *exceeded* in *Moderation*: Which, however great a *Virtue* it is, may yet be *abused* to very ill *Purposes*. For this *Lenity* of the *Patriarchal Families*, in not *chastising* their *Lords* and *Masters* sometimes, had very near lost us our *Privilege* of doing the like now, had not some *Free-Thinkers* and *Republicans* of late restor'd our Almost *extinguished Right*.

Moses and *Aaron* were a very *odd* Kind of Men; for *Moses* tells us, That G O D chose the Children of *Israel*, the Seed of *Abraham*, the *Friend* of G O D, to be the *peculiar People* of G O D: And that G O D (who Govern'd the rest of the *Nations* of the Earth by *deputed Angels*) was yet graciously pleased to take them under his *Owen particular Immediate Government*; and so became their K I N G so *expresly*, that their *Government* was called a THEOCRACY: An *Honour* that no *Nation* under the Sun can *Claim*, or *Plead*, besides themselves! And *Moses* tells us farther, That he was *appointed* by G O D, their *Immediate KING*, as his *Deputy* or *Vicegerent* over them. And, therefore, *Moses* was called *King* in *Jeshurun*; and that, as such, he was to *Govern* the *Israelites*, and to *declare* to them the *Laws* of G O D; and which, if we may believe *him*, he did at *Horeb*, and in a very *solemn Manner*, very *publickly*

lickly, and very *Visibly* and *Audibly*. And he also tells us, That his Brother *Aaron* was most *solemnly Appointed* by God, to be his *High-Priest*, and that It was *Entailed* upon his *Family Hereditary*; yet, all this fine Account notwithstanding, and tho' my *old, musty Book*, I told you of, has it *all expresly*, the Children of *Israel* elected God to be their KING, once upon a Time, when they were in a good Humour; but they took Care to settle the *Pacta Conventa*, previously to their *Election*, by which they *Articled* to *Change Him*, to *Depose Him*, to *Renounce Him*, whenever they thought fit. Now, if you desire my *Vouchers* for this, because I was so civil as to give you *Vouchers* for my last *Story*, I will give you them: 'Tis, however, a *later Author* than my *old, musty Book*, and so, consequently, better, because more within the *Degrees of Credibility*; 'tis that famous Gentleman, who's Name I have forgot; but his Description is this: He is a *Doctor of Laws*, of a fine *College* in a *famous University*, which has a *Statute* binding its Fellows down to the hard Task of being *Mediocriter Docti, &c.* He was a *Papist* about 25 or 26 Years ago, and never *renounced Popery* since; and yet, at present, has no *positive Religion*, but the Love of *Wine, Women, and Money*. And he wrote a *Book*, with the *Help* of a great many of his *Friends*, called, *The Rights of the Christian Church*, by which he plainly shews, That no *Christian Church* has any *Right at all*; but if any *Church* has any *Right*, he seems to allow it rather to the *Popish Church* than to any other *Christian one*; in Compliment, I presume, to them, for
 having

having once allow'd him to herd with them. He has not yet written the *Rights* of the *Mahumetan Church*, that I know of; else I doubt not he'll prefer that in every Thing to the *Christian*, except in that one foolish Article of *Circumcision*, which is too troublesome, especially at this Time of Day, for him, since it was not done when he was very young. This is the *Great Man*, my *Author*. And in that very Book of the *Rights*, &c. it is, that he tells us of the *Horeb Contract*, the *Pacta Conventa* of the Children of *Israel*, when they chose *Almighty* GOD to be their KING, under *Restrictions* and *Limitations*, that they might not betray the *Liberty* and *Freedom* of their *Successors*, which they had a Title to, by the Old *Pre-Adamitical Contract* above-mentioned. And now to shew, that this my *Worthy* and *Modern Author* is in the *Right*, these very Children of *Israel*, when they had but just settled the *Government*, in the Hands of their new-made KING the LORD OF HOSTS, they soon repented; that they had not foreseen and capitulated for farther *Limitations*: And, therefore, that they, as Good *Patriots*, might not be found fault with by their *Posterity*, for Giving up and Surrendring their *Liberties* upon such *Conditions*, they very soon endeavoured to put the *DEPOSING Doctrine* in Practice. And having in a General *Convention*, met upon that extraordinary *Occasion*, for the *Preservation* of their *Religion*, *Liberties*, and *Property*, they found that *Moses*, who was the *Vicerent* of their new Elected KING, had *ABDICATED*; and, therefore, they *DECLARED* the *THRONE VACANT*. And because, as they were then

posted

posted and situated, it was of *dangerous Consequence* to keep the *Throne vacant* long: They, therefore, immediately took care to fill it with a DUMB IDOL CALF, the most *inoffensive* and *best* Sort of KING in the World, because he never could dwindle into a *Tyrant*: And it was remarkable enough, that they never danç'd so heartily, nor so nimbly, while they were a People, as they did before this *Royal Calf*. Why? That Dumb *Royal Calf* was the *Choice* of the *People*, exerting themselves in the *Defence* of *Religion*, *Laws*, and *Liberties*: I say, of *Religion*; for some of the *Priests* were *Consenting*, who had their *Religion*, no doubt, very much at Heart: Of *Laws*; for they *worship'd* this *Royal Calf*, by proclaiming a *Feast*, according to the *Laws* of *Feasting* before their KING; or, at least, they *worshipp'd* it as they should have done their KING: Of *Liberties*; for it was by their *Liberty* that they found themselves *entitled* to the Right of *Declaring* that *Moses* had *Abdicated*, and that they fill'd the *Throne* with this *Royal Calf*. 'Tis true, however, they happened to *Miscarry* in this Business, because they did not *Adjust* it well enough; for there were *Nonjurors* both amongst the *Priests*, and also amongst the *People*, who could not be brought to *Worship*, nor to do *Homage* to this their new KING, the *Calf*: And altho' they had one merry Day of it, yet it became *Bitterness in the End*; for they lost many pretty *Fellows*; besides the *common Mortality*; and they lost much *Money*, even the very *Royal Calf* himself, tho' a *Golden One*: And which had been worst of all, they had well-nigh lost themselves wholly

and entirely, but that their KING *de Jure*, their TRUE KING, was very *Merciful* unto them, and gavethem an *Indemnity*, after he had *consumed* some of the *Ringleaders* of them; and that the rest *repented* for *that Time*, of *that Exercise* of *their Power*.

They found, however, by fatal Experience, that they still came off by the Loss, at Long-run, when they endeavour'd to exert their *Original Power* against their *King himself*; and after several *unsuccessful-Attempts*, and a great many *Growlings*, and *Grumblings*, and *Mobs*, &c. they at last resolved to try their Skill, by destroying the *High-Priest*, a *Chief Minister* amongst them: And this they did by a *Presbyterian Plot*; for they were for *levelling Aaron*, and had prepared a *JUNTO*, or *Scotch General Assembly* of *Levellers*, to share the *Priesthood* equally with him: And their *Reason* was, no doubt of it, a very good one; for all the *People* were *Holy* as well as *Aaron*; and, therefore why should he *Monopolize* so good and so fat a *Benefice*, said they? which, if divided amongst them all, who were the *Pretenders* to it, would serve them all very well. And if these *Holy Levellers* had prevail'd, I am truly of Opinion, they wou'd not have allow'd *Aaron* to be their *constant Moderator*; for they were *True-blue staunch Presbyterians*: (And by the Way, this shews the Antiquity of that *Sett*; this being the first Account I have met with of their Foundation, tho' their Establishment was above 3000 Years after.) But, unluckily, all this fine *Contrivance* was spoil'd at once; for, by a *fortuitous Concourse* of *Atoms*, the Earth

Earth happened to open, just in that *Critical Nick* of *Time*, and just in that *Spot* where the *Three Ringleaders* of the *Popular Faction* happen'd to stand, and swallow'd down *Korah*, *Dathan*, and *Abiram*; And, by another surprising *Concourse* of *Fiery Atoms*, their *Accomplices* were devoured; And by a third *Concourse* of *Plaguy Atoms*, a *Multitude* were struck dead. But all these Misfortunes did not wholly subdue these *Noble Spirits*; for every now and then, they thought fit to *Revive* their *Claim*, cost what it would: And it, indeed cost them a great Deal. Yet they shew'd themselves *Noble Liberty* and *Property Patriots*; that when they were sure they must suffer for it, whenever they made any such Attempt, yet still they went on to prevent *Prescription*. And no Body will deny, but they were very much in the right so to do. Why? Because of the *Pre-adamitical Contract*, and the *Original Contract*, and the *Horeb Contract*, because of *Religion*, *Liberty*, and *Property*, which could be *no where* so safe, as in the Hands of the *People*: For they, surely, *understood* the best, and are *fitter* to *Govern* than any *single Person* of *God's* choosing.

By this very *Rule*, King *David* was a sad Man; for he took upon him to be *King* of *Israel*, as being the *Deputy* of *Almighty God* over them. 'Tis true, my *old musty Book*, says, That *GOD* Himself chose *David*, and made him his *Viceroy*, without asking any of the *People*, *Peers*, or *Commoners*, any *Advice* at all about it. Nor did the *People* meet *Collectively*, nor *Representatively*, to give any *Consent* to it, or to give in any *Claim*, or to

make any *Protestations*, or to *conferr* *Laws*; or, in short, to have any Manner of Hand in making him their *King*: GOD *Almighty* did it all *Himself* without them. And which was still more, He *Entail'd* the Kingdom (according to my *old Book*) upon King *David's Family* *Hereditarily*, without allowing the People any *Vote* in that Affair at all. Nor was there any *one Person* ask'd about it, altho' the *Throne* of *David* was firmly established. But yet for all this, who doubts but the *People* had *Power* to *Depose* King *David*, by *Virtue* and in *Right* of their *Original Contract*? Why? Because they did once *Depose* him: And, can the *People*, the *Majority*, for the Good of whom all *Government* is design'd, do *Wrong*? And are not they themselves much the best *Judges*, who shall *Govern* them, and how they ought to be *Governed*? Surely, they are. And to shew you that they are, and have a *Right* to do it, they set up King *David's Son* against him; I mean *Absalom*, and *Achitophel* was his *principal Secretary* of State, or *first Minister*; and he, who had been an *Eminent* *privy Counsellor* to the *Father*, helped to contrive the *Revolution* for the *Son*. 'Tis true, they happened to be very unlucky in this Undertaking also; for their *Revolution King*, created by the *People*, against the express *Constitution* of the *Kingdom*, happen'd to have too tall a *Beast* on which he rode, which prov'd the *Death* of him. And then, after some Time, GOD's *King* was *restor'd*, and the *Restoration* publicly *solemnized*, and he prov'd very *Merciful*, and forgave all the *Revolutioners* entirely, except a few of the *wickedest*

kedest of them, such as *Shimei* ; whom yet he did not kill, but left to the *Wisdom* of his Son how to deal with them. And then there was an End of *Revolution Principles* for a good many Years together, even all the Days of King *David*, and of his Son King *Solomon* ; in whose Days *Monarchy* was at the *Height*, and, which is strange, *Trade* flourished mightily then ; and there was prodigious *Plenty* of *Silver* and *Gold* in his *Kingdom*, and a long *Peace* : And all the People of the Earth were then Admirers of that *King*, and that *People*, tho' he was pretty *Absolute* ; and he died in *Peace*.

But after King *Solomon's* Death, the worthy *Patriots* of the *Liberties* of the *People*, who were, it seems, confin'd to the *Ten Tribes*, resolv'd to be rid of their heavy *Taxes*, which they pay'd in King *Solomon's* Time, and to exert the *Original Contract*, at least so far as to *limit* and *Cramp* the *Monarchy* pretty heartily ; they came all in a *Convention*, met upon that extraordinary *Occasion*, to propose their *Limitations* to King *Rehoboam* : And they forgot in their *Computation*, that tho' they had paid great *Taxes* to his *Father*, yet, by the very great *Trade* they by his means enjoy'd, they were better able to pay these *Taxes* than they were ever after to pay small ones ; for one may better pay 5 *l.* out of 100 *l.* than *Half a Crown* out of a *Crown*, because tho' that *Half a Crown* be but the 40th *Part* of 5 *l.* yet it is the *half* of a *Crown* still, which is 50 *per Cent.* and 5 *l.* which is 20 *Crowns*, is but the 20th. *Part* of 100 *l.* that is only 5 *per Cent.* This, I say, they forgot ; as also then they did not reflect, that *Trade* never flourished
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near so much amongst them as it did in the Reign of King Solomon; for, as *Absolute* a Prince as he was, which is diametrically opposite to a Discovery made by a great *Reverend*, and a learned Gentleman a *Modern*, who wrote a whole Book of *Travels*, on Purpose to shew, That wherever you can find a *Commonwealth*, there you are sure to find *Trade* flourishing, and great *Riches*; and where you find *Monarchy* higher or lower, there you find *Trade* and *Riches* proportionably decay'd.

However, the *Ten Tribes* were resolved to *AAssert* their *Pre-Adamitical Right* against the *Hereditary Succession* entail'd upon the *Family of David*: And, tho' *Reboboam's* Conduct in that Affair, is not at all to be justified; for *Kings*, even *Hereditary Kings*, are not *infallible Popes*: Yet the *Ten Tribes* were resolved to bring a *REVOLUTION* about, which they did by *Revolting* from the Grandson of *David*, whom they had once *deposed*. And, who can doubt, but upon their *Original Contract*, the *Foundation of REVOLUTION PRINCIPLES*, they were in the right to bring it about? Yet it happen'd, unluckily for them in this Instance also. Why? Because, in *Revolting* from God's *Deputy*, the Grandson and Right *Heir* of King *David*, upon whose *Family* God had settled the *Kingdom Hereditarily*, they *Revolted* from *Almighty God Himself*; and having a mighty Affection for *Calves*, they first set up an *Usurper* instead of their *King*; and then he and they set up two *Calves*, one in *Dan*, and the other in *Bethel*, to be their *Gods*. So then, their *King* was their own *Deputy*, and the *Calves* were the *Gods*, they chose to preserve their

their *Liberties*; left the *People*, by going to worship the True GOD at *Jerusalem*, had return'd to their *Allegiance* due to the *House of David*, and so had confounded the *Usurper*, and their *Revolution Principles* at once. But they were still more Unfortunate, by the *Exercise* of this their *Original Right*; for they never had the good Fortune to have so much as one *good* or *tolerable Revolution King*, for ever hereafter; tho' they *chang'd* and *alter'd* the *Succession* about eight Times, and new *settled* it in so many several *Families*, and with a great deal of *Judgment* too; for they took exact good Care, that all their *Revolution Kings* should be of the *Religion*, they had *chosen* for themselves; for they all *worshipp'd* the two *Calves*. And after all their *Sense*, and *Wit*, and *Conduct*, their *Zeal* for their *Religion*, their *Calves*, and their *Jealousy* of every Thing which could *Attempt* upon their *Liberties*, they never made *choice* of one for their *King*, who was so good as the *worst* of those GOD had *chosen* for them. And they were at last entirely *dispersed*, and *rooted out* of their *Inheritances*, and were *deprived* of both their *Liberty* and *Property*, and became a *Prey* to their *Neighbours*, and a *By-Word* and a *Proverb* amongst the *Nations*: Yet still they were a free *People* for all this, so long as GOD's *Vicegerent* of the *Family of David* did not *Reign* over them. For any *Slavery* is *supportable* and *tolerable*, except that which GOD *Almighty enjoins*. But to yield to *that*, is to be a *Slave* indeed, and shews a *mean Spirit*, which has no *Regard* for *Natural* Free-

Freedom, which every pretty Fellow and fine Gentleman ought to have.

But this *Original Right* from the *Pre-Adamitical Contract*, runs higher still; for by Virtue of it, *Providence* is deny'd by all the Noble *Free-thinkers*, as an *Encroachment* upon their *Liberty*, tho' it be the Thing by which *Almighty God* is pleas'd to shew Himself to the *World* to be *GOD*. 'Tis true, these worthy *Patriots* for *Liberty*, are very fine, well-bred *Gentlemen*; and to shew their *Good Breeding*, do *Compliment* *GOD* out of His *Providence*, by making it not worth His while to order or mind what is done in the *World*, as if it must give Him *Trouble* to do it. And I must own, these *Gentlemen* are very *consistent* with their Other *Notions* in this. Why? Because if *GOD's Providence* be allow'd of, and that by it He *Governs* the *World*, then our *Wisdom* will appear to be but *stupid Folly* and *Madness*, which is by no Means to be granted by Men of *Wit* and *Freedom*.

And a natural Consequence of this it is, to Deny the *Power* which *GOD* has given to His *Deputies*, the *lawful Kings* and *Queens* of the *Earth*, and which He has *entail'd* upon their *Families* *hereditarily*, which is inconsistent with the *Pre-Adamitical Contract*. Why? Because that were to Acknowledge the *Lawfulness* of fixing a *Monopoly* of *Power* in *One Person*, to the great *Disparagement* of the *Multitude*, who are *Naturally* the *Fountain* of *Power* and *Government*. And, is it not very natural for those, who deny the *Power* of *God* in *Governing* the *World* by His *PROVIDENCE*, to deny also

also to render to His *Deputies*, the *lawful Kings* and *Queens* of the *Earth*, the *Power of Governing* us any longer than we think fit.

Thus the Bringing King *Charles I.* to the *Block*, and then *Striking* off his *Head*, was a natural Consequence of this *Power of the People*; which I have been proving from the *Pre-Adamitical Contract*: And the Steps they made to attain this *Power*, or rather to *regain* it out of the Hands of the *Monopolizers* of it, were all very *Just*, and true *Consequences* of the *popular Power*. For, *First*, They *grumbled* at every Thing, to shew they had a Mind to be *angry*; then they made *Ten thousand Lyes*, which are *only* lawful in such Cases, when they become *useful* to the *People*, for the Recovery of their *Rights*: Then they fought for the Thing, or *Word King*, against the *Person* of the *KING*; and, at last, when they grew strong enough, they became all *Kings*, and, for any Thing I know, might have continued so to this Day, but that they had not Time to spare for *Governing*: And, therefore, having *destroy'd* *GOD's Deputy*, they made new *Deputies* of their own; and to secure them, they *Abjur'd* the whole Family and Race of the *STUARTS*, along with the *Person* of King *Charles II.* their *Native, Hereditary, Exiled Prince*. Why? Because that *Person*, King *Charles II.* was a *Pretender* to the *Crown*, and claim'd an *Hereditary Right* and *Title* to the *Monopoly* of *Power* over these *Nations*, *Jure Divino*; which Claim and Pretence was absolutely *Inconsistent* with the *Sovereignty* of the *People*:

And, therefore, the People did act *wisely and judiciously*, in setting up the *Family* of the *Cromwells*, in Opposition to the *Family* of the *Stuarts*, when they found, that when they deputed many to Govern them, It bred *Factions* and *Inconveniences*. But one Family they could easier deal with, upon Occasion; especially, when they chose to be Govern'd but by a single Person of that Family at a Time; and that the whole Family of the *Cromwells* ow'd their Promotion entirely to the People, and could claim no Right, *Jure Divino*; for that is, undoubtedly, the most *dangerous Claim* of all. Why? Because it is a *Fundamental Maxim*, that *The worse Title, the better King*. And this Maxim was found to be good by the Experience of those Days; for, under the *happy Government* of the *Noble Family* of the *Cromwells*, and, particularly, under *Oliver* himself, what Happiness did these Nations enjoy? Then there was no Occasion for Taxes; there were no Wars, no Bloodshed, no Sequestrations; no, they were *pure Gospel-times*; every Man liv'd peaceably and plentifully under his own Vine: And you would have heard Psalms sung in the very Streets; so Religious were they. Whereas, when King *Charles II.* by a strange Chance, got into the Saddle again, at the *Restoration*, what *terrible Doings* were then to be seen all over these Kingdoms? nothing but Desolation and Destruction, War and Blood, heavy Taxes, no Trade, no Money, &c. These were strange Things, but very accountable. Why? Because King *Charles* was only the Deputy, the *Vicegerent* of G O D. And, how could these Nations be happy under him?

But

But *Oliver*, and his Noble Family of the *Cromwells*, were the free *Choice* of the People; and, consequently, it was no *Oppression* in him, or them, to *dispose* of the Persons and Estates of the People, how he or they pleased. Why, Because they had the presum'd *Consent* of the People so to do. *First*, Because they *chose* them themselves: And, *Secondly*, Because if they had not lik'd their Management, they would have depos'd them as being their own Creatures. But some will say, *Oliver* was not a *King*. Well, it may be so; but he Ruled and Governed as Absolutely and Despotically as any King ever did; and he had all the Power of a King, and, indeed, of a Parliament too. He only wanted the Title; and that he must not be blam'd for, because he endeavoured to have it: But the People did not think fit to give it him; and he, Good Man, was very well satisfied without it.

Many are the Excellent Consequences of this *Original, popular Power*; to go through them all, would tire you and me both. I shall, therefore, only hint at a few more of them.

The Immortality of the Soul is incompatible with it; for, if the Soul *subsists* after the Death of the Body, it must *subsist* somewhere, and be either Happy or Miserable: And there must be some Ways of Living here, while the Soul and Body are together, which must *determine* the *State* the Soul is to be in after the Death of the Body; and if so, there must be some *Rule* to go by, which, if observ'd, the Soul is to be happy; but if not observ'd, the Soul must be *miserable*. Now this Doctrine my *old musty Book* is very full upon: But this would

spoil all, and would oblige us to be very inquisitive to find out the Way to *future Happiness*; and when we have found it, to walk very Carefully in it, to *Avoid future Misery*. And this does at once spoil all our *Free-Thinking*, if it is allow'd, and as being absolutely inconsistent with it. And, therefore, to keep our Rationality and Freedom, we must ~~not~~ level our selves as low as *brute Beasts*, because 'tis impossible to keep up all our Pretences to the Power of Governing ourselves how we will, if the Soul Man is Immortal, or if there is a future State of Rewards or Punishments. I own, however, that this *Principle* of the Soul's *dying* with the Body is somewhat ticklish; for, as necessary as it seems to be, in order to maintain our Freedom and Liberty; for if, upon Trial, we should find ourselves mistaken, and find that our Souls do really *subsist* after the Death of our Bodies; in that Case we are but in very bad Circumstances. Another Thing also sticks with me, and I can't well tell how to get out of it without Help; if any of these Nations, where my *old Book* is believ'd by the Majority, or at least where the Majority, for certain Reasons, don't think fit *yet* to declare against it, and have calculated their Laws according to it, should tell any *Free-Thinker*, that since, according to his Notion of Things, he has no *Immortal Soul*, but that he dies as a Beast doth, &c. Therefore, the *Majority* of such a *Nation* do *determine*, that, from henceforward, whoever kills any such *Free-thinker*, shall not be thought or constructed a *Murderer*, any more than a Butcher is a Murderer for killing a Sheep. I cannot tell what to say to it, since the

common Definition of *Murther* is the destroying the *Image* of G O D, without a Legal Sentence pronounced. Now if we are to die, as do Sheep, and have no Image of G O D in us to be destroyed, where is the Sin in killing a Man more than a Sheep? I beg the Assistance of the *Free-thinkers* to help me out of this *Lurch*.

And, particularly, I call upon my *good Friend* abovementioned, my *Mediocriter Doctus*, &c. the Author of the *Rights*, &c. and upon Mr. C——, whom all the Men, who believe they have Immortal Souls, are sorry for, because he has been, say they, *guilty* of a *Rape* upon his own good Nature, in Patronizing a Cause which has already proved, and will still prove, too hard for his *Head* and *Understanding*. But, most especially, I call upon the Great and Mighty T——d, the *irregular sacrilegious Spawn* (say they that know him) of a Perjur'd, *Irish*, Popish Priest, who had proved to a Demonstration, that King *Charles* the *Martyr* was not the Author of *Eikon Basilike*, had not Dr. *Wagstaffe* unluckily known the Story better than he, and printed it, who is an *intimate Companion* to all *Great Men*, when he is not in their Company, but known to none of them when they happen to see him, who has been often *kick'd* and *drubb'd* not only in E——d, where *Monarchy* prevails, but even in H——d, the *Sanctuary* of all the *Rebels* in *Europe*, and where all the *Odd Principles* in *Church* and *State*, that are to be found in *Europe*, are *Protected*, *Nurs'd*, and *Encouraged*. This *Great Author*, who has drawn his Pen so often against JESUS CHRIST, and his Gospel, I expressly.

expressly Call upon to *assist* me, how to get rid of my *Difficulty*; and if he will call into his Aid, any of his *Great Lords*, his *Intimates*, I shall be much the fonder of his Learned *Solution*. But I *barr* all *Exotic Manuscripts*, unless they be *attested* by some more *Credible* Persons, than either *Pere Simon*, or *Le Clerc*.

In the next Place, this *Freedom* and *Original Power* I have been demonstrating, cuts off all *Bishops* in the *Church*, as well as *Kings* of *God's* making in *State*. Why? Because *Bishops* pretend to be the particular *Representatives* of *JESUS CHRIST*, in and to the *Church*, and that by *Divine Appointment* and *Commission*, without taking any Notice of the *Power* of the *People* at all; so that it either follows, that we should have no *Bishops* at all, or that, if any such be allowed, they are the *best Bishops*, who do best serve the *Common Interest*, by *Levelling* the *Primitive Doctrines*, and *Confounding* the *Primitive Discipline* of the *Church*, who *surrender* the *Divine MAGNA CHARTA* of the *Church*, because it is *Inconsistent* with the *Power* of the *People*, who *level* their own *Character*, and who *swear* to maintain the *Old Doctrines*, and put in Practice the *Old Discipline* of the *Church*, if thereby they can, with the greater Ease, *destroy both*. Why? Because they are certainly the *bravest* and *boldest* Men who *Dare* to do most for the *Service* of their *Friends*. And as for your *Primitive* Sort of *Bishops*, who are *frighten'd* at the very *Appearance* of *Perjury*, who dare not venture to part with a Hoof of what they think the *Old Way*, according to my *old Book*, and who dare
not

not *Live* otherwise than they *profess*, these are a parcel of *poor, mean spirited, slavish Men*, who are bound up to the *Superstition* of keeping their *Words*, and who are so *silly* as to believe they must be undone, if they believe not all the *Articles* of a *System* of above 1600 Years standing: They are to be *pity'd* by Men of *Wit, Sense, and Education*, in the *Free-Way*.

And from hence it is wonderfully plain, that the *Presbyterians* and other *Sectaries*, are much *nearer* being in the *Right* than the *Church of England*. Why? Because the *Church of England* professes to be *absolutely* bound up to the *Institutions* of JESUS CHRIST, and the *Practice* of the *Primitive Church*, in the *first* and *purest* Ages of it. But the *Presbyterians*, and other *Sectaries*, do *Nobly* exert themselves, in maintaining the *Original Power* of the *People*, from whom they receive their *Commission*: And why should not the *People* *Appoint* and *Give Commissions* to *Priests* of their own *Chusing*, to *Lead* them to *Heaven* in their own *Way*? This is *Noble*; and, if it prove *successful*, may be *then* pronounced a very *good Way*.

And now, to *Conclude*, that *Civil Ministry* must be, by the same *Rule*, the *best Ministry* by far, which *Entails* upon the *People* *War, Poverty, Faction, Desolation, and Destruction*. Why? Because by this they shew, they are the *People's Choice* and *Favourites*, else Our *Sovereign Lord*; the *Mobb*, would never bear it: For the *People* can bear *nothing*, from either the *Kings* of *God's* making, or from the *Ministry* made by such *Kings*. But they can bear any thing, from the *Kings*

Kings of their own Making, or from a Ministry which bribes them with War, Bloody Battles, Want of Money, Decay of Trade, and Scarcity of Provisions. I say, War, for many Reasons, such as These : To Strengthen our Neighbours, and Weaken our selves, that they may shew their Moderation in not Insulting us ; To Make the Army a Nursery, wherein to breed up Champions for the Pre-Adamitical Contract : And to Apply their Loyalty to their General, rather than to their Sovereign, &c. Bloody Battles, to keep the Nation from being over-stock'd with Men, to make Selling Commissions a good Revenue, and to enrich the Corporation of Hawkers, &c. Want of Money, to prevent Luxury, and to Encrease the Consumption of Beer and Ale, because Wine (if it Grew in France) disposeth the Drinkers of it to Tyranny, &c. Decay of Trade, that our Good Neighbours may have the Fatigue of it, and that so we may Live at Ease, like Gentlemen, &c. and, Scarcity of Provisions; to keep us in Good Health, and to save the Charge of Physicians, &c. And, who would not be fond of such a Ministry ?

*The following Licence of a Foreign Reign
Did all the Dregs of bold Socinus drain ;
Then, first, the Belgian Morals were extoll'd ;
We their Religion had; and they our Gold :
Then Unbelieving Priests reform'd the Nation,
And taught more Pleasant Methods of Salvation;
Where Heav'n's Free Subjects might their Rights
Dispute,
Lest GOD Himself shou'd seem too Absolute.*

[— Mr. Pope's Essay on Criticism
F I N I S.